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***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****

BODY

SUBJECT: LATIN AMERICA BRIEF [REDACTED] FOR 03 NOVEMBER
1993.

CONTENTS

1. HAITI: DEVELOPMENTS [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED]

3. [REDACTED]

1. HAITI: DEVELOPMENTS [REDACTED]

PLANNING FOR CONSTITUTIONAL COUP

ARMY CHIEF CEDRAS AND ANTI-ARISTIDE LEGISLATORS ARE PLANNING A CONSTITUTIONAL COUP TODAY TO CREATE AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT THAT WOULD CALL FOR A NEW PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AS A PRIMARY OPTION, THE INSTIGATORS WANT THE LEGISLATURE TO REMOVE PRIME MINISTER MALVAL THROUGH A VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE. THEY WOULD THEN INVOKE ARTICLE 149 OF THE CONSTITUTION AND SWEAR IN SUPREME COURT JUSTICE JONASSAINT AS INTERIM PRESIDENT. AFTER THAT, THE LEGISLATORS WOULD NOMINATE GERARD LATORTUE, CURRENTLY SERVING AS HAITI'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN IN VIENNA, AS PRIME MINISTER.

[REDACTED] THE PLOTTERS BELIEVE LATORTUE'S EXPERIENCE WILL BE CRITICAL IN PERSUADING THE UN TO LIFT SANCTIONS. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] POLICE CHIEF FRANCOIS WAS NOT AT YESTERDAY'S MEETING, BUT HE [REDACTED] SUPPORTS THE PLAN. HE, HOWEVER, STRONGLY OPPOSES THE SELECTION OF A NEW PRIME MINISTER, PREFERING INSTEAD TO HAVE ONLY AN INTERIM PRESIDENT WHILE PREPARATIONS FOR A NEW ELECTION ARE UNDER

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WAY. IF CEDRAS AND THE RIGHTIST LEGISLATORS ARE UNABLE TO ACHIEVE A QUORUM, THEY MAY CALL FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND FOR THE CREATION OF AN EMERGENCY LEGISLATIVE BODY AND A COUNCIL OF STATE--HEADED BY JONASSAINT--THAT WOULD RULE BY DECREE. AS A THIRD OPTION, THEY SAY THEY WOULD SUPPORT A GOVERNING JUNTA COMPOSED OF CEDRAS AND FOUR CIVILIANS. [REDACTED]

TO SUPPRESS ANY OPPOSITION, THE PLOTTERS PLAN TO HAVE A DUVALIERIST GROUP FIRE WEAPONS RANDOMLY TONIGHT AND TO ORGANIZE STRIKES TOMORROW AND ON FRIDAY. [REDACTED] THEY HOPE SUCH EFFORTS WOULD HELP INTIMIDATE HAITIANS, INCLUDING ARISTIDE SUPPORTERS, INTO STAYING OFF THE STREETS. [REDACTED] SHOOTING INCIDENTS HAVE ALREADY INCREASED, INCLUDING THE AREA AROUND MALVAL'S HOME. [REDACTED]

COMMENT: EVEN IF THEIR TIMETABLE IS DELAYED, REPLACEMENT OF MALVAL AND A NEW ELECTION WILL REMAIN CENTRAL TO THE RIGHTIST PLANNING. THE IDEA OF USING A COUNCIL OF STATE TO GOVERN IS SIMILAR TO A FORMULA USED IN 1990 WHEN A GROUP OF 12 POLITICAL PARTIES NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS SECTORS OF HAITIAN SOCIETY TO GOVERN IN CONJUNCTION WITH A PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT. [REDACTED]



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THE RANK AND FILE BELIEVE
THE GOVERNORS ISLAND ACCORD IS UNTENABLE AND THAT THEY INTEND TO
WAIT FOR THE UN OR ARISTIDE TO MAKE THE NEXT MOVE. FOR NOW, THEY ARE
HEEDING CEDRAS'S CALL FOR CALM. MOST SOLDIERS APPARENTLY APPROVE OF
THE INVOCATION OF ARTICLE 149 AND BELIEVE THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY WOULD GRUDGINGLY ACCEPT NEW ELECTIONS.

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